



Wildmoor Heath School

Curriculum Newsletter

Spring Term 2017-18

Year 6 – Miss Leadbeatter

Year 6's themes for the Spring Term are the 'Holiday Show', which will look at the impact of travel and tourism and 900AD – History of Non-European Societies. In the first half term the children will be finding out about their responsibilities as tourists, and the impact that we can have on the human and physical environment. As geographers they'll be finding out about a tourist attraction in their local area, how maps can give us tourist information and how tourism impacts on regions, countries and cultures. As historians, they will create a history tour of their local area, while as technologists the children will evaluate materials used to market holidays, plan a holiday route around the world using QR codes and design a sustainable holiday destination. In 900AD, the children will ask: What holds an empire together? Perhaps it is faith – a belief in a single god or many different gods. Perhaps it is dependency – a need to work together and to help one another. Or perhaps it is leadership – strong individuals whose power and wisdom are admired. These bonds help to make empires strong. But the bigger they become, the more difficult they are to hold together... The children will study these themes as historians, artists and musicians.



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Year 5 – Mr People

In their first unit, the children will be considering the Greek and Roman Empires and their impact on world we know today. In History, they'll be finding out about Athens and Sparta and how the Persian War brought the Greek city-states together. The children will also be performing their own Greek play. They will learn what daily life was like in Ancient Rome and what happened when the Romans invaded another country. They will use archaeological evidence to find out about the past. In Music, they'll be finding out how to write and perform their own Greek chorus, while in Art, they will find out about Ancient Greek and Roman art and how to create their own. After half term, the children will become 'Champions for Change', finding out about democracy and politics and taking an active role and interest in the future, to improve our lives and those of others. In Society, the children will be finding out about our system of government and different types of government around the world. They will consider what makes a good leader. In history, they'll be finding out about the origins of democracy and how and why empires have been established and studying a historical campaign or revolution for change. In International, they'll be finding out about global issues that should concern governments around the world.



Year 4 – Mrs Leach

Year 4's themes for the Spring are ICT & Computing, 'Turn it Up' and 'Gateways to the World'. In the first unit, the children will learn about how air travel helps to connect people around the world. This will include finding out about the connections we have with different places in the world and where we can travel to from our local airport. The children will also consider the 'hot topic' of airport expansion and plan an airport. In Art, they will research different airline logos and designs and create their own, while in Computing, the children will create a check-in database and program their own airplane game. In Society & International, they will be finding out about the jobs people do in an airport and the use of passports and visas around the world. In 'Turn it Up', the children will be finding out about the science of sound and light. In Computing they will learn how to keep themselves and their personal data safe online; to present and communicate information effectively; to gather information online and solve problems using different search strategies and to use sequence, repetition and selection in computer programming.



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Year 3 – Miss Thompson

Year 3's topic for the whole of the Spring Term is 'Active planet'. The tectonic plates that form the Earth's crust are always moving. Even the smallest movement can cause huge earthquakes, volcanoes and tsunamis that devastate communities across wide areas. If we can understand what is happening underground we can learn to predict and protect ourselves in the future. In Geography, the children will be finding out about how the Earth is formed, what causes an earthquake and how they can be measured. In Technology, they'll be finding out what makes buildings strong and about protective clothing and equipment. In Science, they will be finding out what happens when a volcano erupts. In Music, they'll be using instruments to make sound pictures and composing their own piece of music. In History, the children will be finding out about the devastation of Pompeii. In Art, they'll be using different materials and techniques to represent a volcano. In Society, they'll be finding out about legends associated with volcanoes and in International, finding out about international organisations that work after natural disasters.



Year 2 – Miss Carter

Year 2 will be researching 'The Stories People Tell'. Many of the stories that we enjoy today are influenced by the stories that have been passed down through the ages. By studying older stories, such as myths and legends, the children can become storytellers too, writing and performing their own stories to entertain people today. In History, they'll be finding out about myths and legends from different times in the past. In Art, they'll be creating their own Greek masks and designing and making dream catchers. In Music, they'll be finding out about songs and music that tell a story and how they can make their own music to tell a story. In Geography, they will find out about stories from different countries and cultures. In Society, they'll be finding out about fairy tales and the lessons that they teach us. Their second unit is 'From A to B' and the children will be learning about different forms of transport. In Geography, they will find out about how we travel to school and how to make maps of the journey. In History, they'll be finding out about transport in the past, how to make a timeline to show when different types of transport were invented. In Art and Music, they'll be finding out how to create futurist paintings to capture the speed and movement of transport, a boat collage in the style of Turner and Monet and a 'sound journey'. In ICT & Computing, the children will create a simple algorithm and program Bee-bots to follow precise instructions.



Ten Things to Say to Your Child to Help Them Learn

The IPC approach is based on the research by Carol Dweck into 'growth mindset' – that is, the belief it is hard work and effort that leads to success not innate talent or ability'. IPC will help the children to become academic risk takers by understanding that mistakes are part of learning; they will also learn to be resilient, resourceful and collaborative learners. Below are some things you can say to your child to help them to be more effective learners:



1. Say to your child the word **'yet'** as often as you can.
2. Say to your child: **'you're getting better'** whenever the opportunity allows.
3. Say to your child: **'what have you learned today?'**
4. Say encouraging things as often as you can when your child is beginning to learn something new and **encourage** them when something still isn't perfect.
5. Say things to your child to show **you can see that there's improvement, however small.**
6. Say to your child: **'of course you've made a mistake, but keep going, you're learning.'**
7. Say to your child: **'your brain is wired in lots of different ways, some ways are better than others. Let's try to make each part work as well as it can.'**
8. Say to your child: **'take a break, do some exercise, and then start learning again.'**
9. Say to your child: **'if you find facts difficult to remember then it is ok to use a 'hook' to help you remember.'**
10. Say to your child: **'I found x easy to learn, but I had to work harder at y.'**

Year 1 – Dr Moynihan & Mrs Hamer

In 'Seeing the Light' the children will be looking at Chinese New Year and the importance of light in festivals around the world. In Art and Music they will studying work with light and dark as a theme and will be looking at showing light and dark in their work. In Geography, they'll be finding out about what causes day and night and countries that have very long summer days and very long winter nights. In Science the children will be finding out what seeds and plants need to grow, about the different light sources and how some materials can reflect light. They will also be finding out how shadows are made. Year 1's second topic is 'Look & Listen'. In Science, the children will be finding out where sound and light come from, what happens when sounds enter their ears and how we can change sounds. In Technology, they'll be finding out how to design and make a drum. In Music they'll be learning how to play a drum rhythm. The children will be looking at Kenya for their International topic and exploring how languages are made up of sounds. Finally, Year 1 will do a short Computing unit called 'Say Cheese' during which they will be learning about Fox Talbot and how to take the perfect picture including using software to edit it. They will also learn about staying safe on-line, how to download, save and upload images and how to use them in documents and simple presentations.



Residential Trips – Year 6 and Year 4

Year 6 will be going to Rhos-y-gwaliau (RYG) Outdoor Education Centre in North Wales from **Sunday 18th February to Saturday 24th February** next term. The trip is an important part of their geography, PSHE and PE curriculum. **There will be a parent update meeting on Thursday 1st February 2018 at 6.30pm.** RYG Club starts on Thursday 4th January (3.15 – 4.25pm) for 5 weeks. Year 4 will be going to Ufton Court from Monday 4th to Wednesday 6th June (in the Summer Term). We will be holding a launch meeting during January where full details of the trip will be given. Please keep an eye out for the invitation via School Comms.

Statutory & School Assessments

8-25th May – SATs Assessment Period for Year 2

14-18th May – SATs Week for Year 6

21-25th May – Assessment Week Year 3-5

11-15th June – Phonics Check for Year 1

Please make sure that your child is in school for these assessments.

(Meetings and further information will be provided to parents nearer to these dates)

Parent View



Parent View gives you the chance to tell Ofsted what you think about your child's school, from the quality of teaching to dealing with bullying and poor behaviour. The survey can be completed at any time; you don't have to wait until the school is being inspected. Visit <https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/>.